

Guelphs and Ghibellines:

*A Short History of Mediaeval Italy from
1250-1409 by Oscar Browning*

*Aspettando soccorso d'gente da cavallo e d'apie del dicto conte archa cana
cccc/efanti. Vj. del dicto signore di padua. Come i bolognesi fanno
sopra me du panti di aptadini.*



*cosi furono messi impunto allora ordinata Diche il dicto Nani pareo
allui e a suoi amici loro unanno no aspettando loro deuita romoreo*

A LIBRIVOX FREE AUDIOBOOK READ BY PAM NAGAMI

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The High Middle Ages in Italy, 1250-1409, were a time of incessant strife between rival city-states, some the Ghibelline allies of the Holy Roman Empire, others joining forces with the Guelph armies of the Papacy. Mercenary captains led hired bands of soldiers of fortune. These captains sometimes became great despots, ruling the very cities that had engaged them. Florence began her ascent. The terrible Visconti dominated Milan, and Genoa established a vast trading empire, only to suffer defeat and decline when her fleet was destroyed by Venice, the Queen of the Adriatic. (Summary by Pamela Nagami, M.D.)

Read by Pamela Nagami. Total running time: 64:43:26

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Cover picture *Depiction of a 14th C. fight (1369?) between the militias of the Guelph and Ghibelline factions in the Italian commune of Bologna, from the Croniche of Giovanni Sercambi of Lucca.*

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